IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2-14 to 16-27 as follows.

1. (Original) A system for positioning dental X-ray apparatus, comprising

- an input and output device for interactive control,

- a storage area, in which at least one digitized dental X-ray image and information concerning the X-ray apparatus assignable to the digitized dental X-ray image are stored,

- a computer interface, via which information can be interchanged with the X-ray apparatus,

- means for selecting areas in the digitized dental X-ray image,

- a processing unit which effects calculations based on the digitized dental X-ray image, the relevant information concerning the X-ray apparatus, and the selected area, in order to ascertain control data for the dental X-ray apparatus,

- wherein the dental X-ray apparatus is controllable by said control data such that the selected area is covered when a dental X-ray image is made.

2. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~the previous claim~~ claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the digitized X-ray image ~~is~~ comprises an individual image of ~~the~~ a patient.

3. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~the previous claim and comprising~~ claim 1, wherein the X-ray apparatus is of a type suitable for various types of image, ~~characterized in that~~ and wherein means for selecting the type of image are provided.

4. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims and~~ claim 1, further comprising means for positioning a patient relatively to the X-ray apparatus, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the control data is adapted to control said means for positioning the patient.

5. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the information concerning the X-ray apparatus ~~consists of the~~ comprises coordinates of ~~the~~ a trajectory which have been saved in relation to the digitized X-ray image.

6. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claim, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the storage area includes current and/or voltage parameters ~~are~~ saved in relation to the digitized X-ray image.

7. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the storage area includes information concerning ~~the~~ gray tones in the representation of the image ~~are~~ saved in relation to the digital X-ray image.

8. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the processing unit includes computation for determining said control data which takes into account the type of image.

9. (Currently Amended).. A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the processing unit includes computation for determining said control data which takes into account the purpose of diagnosis.

10. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the processing unit includes patient-dependent data, ~~such as~~ including one of size, weight, type, race, age, jaw shape, and/~~or~~ previous treatments which are taken into account when determining said control data.

11. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized by~~ claim 1, further comprising means for automatically recognizing areas, particularly teeth, by pattern recognition algorithms.

12. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the selecting means are designed such that areas can be selected manually.

13. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 10, wherein the processing unit includes one of statistical and/~~or~~ stochastic linkings of the ~~individual parameters are carried out~~ patient-dependent data.

14. (Currently Amended) A system as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 1, further comprising means ~~are~~ provided for making a series of radiograms at different positions starting from ~~the~~ a selected position.

15. (Original) Dental X-ray apparatus, characterized by a system as defined in any one or more of the previous claims.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of positioning ~~the~~ one of an emitter and/~~or~~ a detector of a dental X-ray apparatus using an existing digitized dental X-ray image

and information concerning the X-ray apparatus and assignable to the digitized dental X-ray image, ~~wherein~~ comprising the steps of:

- loading and displaying at least one digitized dental X-ray image, ~~is loaded and displayed~~,

- determining coordinates of ~~those~~ areas ~~are determined~~, with reference to the digitized dental X-ray image, which are to be depicted in another X-ray image,

- loading information concerning the X-ray apparatus, ~~is loaded,~~

- carrying out computation ~~is carried out~~ on the basis of the digitized X-ray image, ~~the~~ relevant information concerning the X-ray apparatus, and the selected area, in order to ascertain control data which controls the dental X-ray apparatus such that the selected area can be depicted in a dental X-ray image.

17. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~the previous~~ claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the digitized X-ray image ~~is~~ comprises an individual image of the patient.

18. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the type of image to be made by the X-ray apparatus is selected prior to the ~~third~~ loading step.

19. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims~~ claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the control data is adapted to control means for positioning the patient ~~relatively~~ relative to the X-ray apparatus.

20. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~the previous~~ claim 16, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the information concerning the X-ray apparatus comprises coordinates of the trajectory which have been saved in relation to the

digitized X-ray image, and a segment of the trajectory is calculated on the basis of the selected area.

21. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 16, wherein the computation step includes one of current and/~~or~~ voltage parameters which are saved in relation to the digitized X-ray image.

22. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 16, wherein the computation for determination of the control data takes into account one of the type of examination and/~~or~~ the purpose of diagnosis of the patient.

23. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 16, wherein the patient-dependent data, ~~such as~~ including one of size, weight, type, race, age, jaw shape, and/~~or~~ previous treatments, are taken into account when computing the control data.

24. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 16, wherein the computation step includes automatically recognizing areas, particularly teeth, ~~are automatically recognized~~ one of manually by pattern recognition algorithms.

25. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 16, wherein the areas can be determined manually.

26. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 23, wherein one of statistical and/~~or~~ stochastic linkings of the ~~individual parameters~~ patient-dependent data are carried out.

27. (Currently Amended) A method as defined in ~~any one or more of the previous claims, characterized in that~~ claim 16, further comprising the step of making a series of radiograms ~~are made~~ at different positions starting from the selected position.